# LIFE & HIMES

C SECTION

#### On Post

Offshore Fishing Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Infantry Division unit financial advisor Staff Sgt. Mike Lyons, is offering offshore fishing trips for interested Soldiers on weekends.

Great-tasting King Mackerel are in season. Bait and fuel are provided for a small

For more information, contact Lyons at 767-1806.

### Volunteers needed

The ACS volunteer coordinator and the installation volunteer coordinator have information about a wide variety of volunteer opportunities in the ACS center and other agencies at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

Volunteer orientation at Hunter ACS is the first Thursday of every month, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteers are always welcome and much-needed at ACS. For more information, call 352-6816.

#### Brown Bag Lunch

The American Red Cross is hosting weekly Brown Bag Lunches at their office in Building 623, every Monday from 12 a.m. to 1 p.m.. The lunches provide military families with opportunities to network with other families and the Red Cross. No RSVP necessary, just show up with your lunch and get ready to socialize. For more information, call 767-2197

#### **American Red Cross** & Spencers

Families who have had children since being deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom, or have had them since their return, are eligible to receive a free layette offered by Spencer's

Children's Clothing Company, Inc. A \$70 retail value, the gift set is a great chance to add to a family's baby supplies. Children must be under 18 months of age.

For specific guidelines and applications, contact the American Red Cross office at 767-2197.

#### **Off Post**

#### MILES Program

Don't buy a vehicle until you are armed with knowledge. This program is designed exclusively for active duty servicemembers who cannot obtain bank or credit financing when purchasing a vehicle.

For information, visit or qualify online at usmiles.com or call **Military** Installment Loan and **Education Services Assistance Center toll** free at (866)-466-4537.

To publish a brief in The Frontline, call 767-3440 or fax us at 767-4951. Deadline for briefs is Friday at noon.



Jason Clayton (center), a high school student who attended the AFAP youth forum Saturday, expresses his opinion that the hospital is too backed up, making it difficult to get appointments. The forum brought together nine teenagers to discuss areas of improvement on post.

# Teens speak out at youth forum

Stewart high school students brainstorm together about making the post a better place

Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Staff Writer

The Army Family Action Plan held its yearly youth forum Saturday to give teens of Fort Stewart an opportunity to voice their views and ideas about how to improve the post.

Led by Natalie Hallums and Wiginton, Community Service, the forum brought together nine teenagers with visions of how to make Stewart a better place to live, both for themselves and for all resi-

Normally, Wiginton said, teens bring up issues such as the need for more youth activities and transportation to those activities, school concerns like the transfer of credits from one state to another, or questions having to do with their families' medical concerns.

Once the issues have been decided upon and raised, they are briefed to Maj. Gen. William G. Webster, 3rd Infantry Division commander, she said. He then takes action on those concerns that can be acted upon based on funds and means available.

'These forums are important

because they provide an opportunity to put your concerns in, and those concerns are looked upon by the chain of command," Wigington said.

Ideas from last year's forum inspired the building of the new Youth Activities Center. They also caused ACS to consider constructing a skateboard park, which is being planned now, she

"It gives you a chance to learn a little about how the system works," said forum attendee Debra Vukovich, 16. "It's a way to get our voices heard."

Desmond Johnson, 15, said he likes playing basketball, football, and soccer.

"I'm going to ask about getting more sports activities," he said. "What they decide to do about what we say depends on how much they want it."

David Smith, Stewart school liaison officer, said he had high expectations for the forum.

'The youth are insightful. They will ask questions that revolve around their quality of life, as well as their families' and communities'. They discuss areas they think they can have input," he said.

The forum started out with an introduction consisting reminding the students of the three "group norms" for the day.

The first was to be respectful of others' ideas and opinions, since several different viewpoints were going to be discussed. The second was to think across the board and brainstorm improvements that help everyone. And third, simply have fun.

The group spent the first hour brainstorming ideas together, while one of the attendees, Heather Lysale, recorded each one on a large sheet of paper at the front of the room.

Issues that were raised by the teens included problems varied from concerns about improving the service given at Winn Army Community Hospital to building an internet café.

The hospital's problems with backed-up appointments was an issue mentioned by Jason Clayton, 17.

He said he had heard a lot of people complain about not being able to get appointments lately.

Tiffany LeJeune said she felt improvements were needed at



Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Tiffany LeJeune makes a point about the need for improved and covered school bus stops. school bus stops, some of which are nothing but an uncovered slab of cement on the ground. She also brought up the point that certain parts of Sunbury Rd. have potholes and need repairs.

See TEENS, Page 3C

# Glad to give...



Col. John M. Kidd, garrison commander, accepts a check for \$1,000 on behalf of the Fort Stewart Fallen Soldiers Fund from National Quartermaster Charles Rogers (center) and Treasurer Bill Davidson (left) of the Scottish-American Military Society. SAMS held a golf tournament to raise the funds for FSF, an organization to which they have been planning on donating for more than a year.

# For love of animals

Student learns more about dream job at forum

Jennifer Wingfield

Managing Editor

Ever since he was in elementary school, 17-year-old Jason Clayton has wanted to be a veterinarian. During the summer, he was able to step a bit closer to his dream voca-

The National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine held July 18 through 24 in Atlanta this summer was offered to over 350 outstanding high school juniors and seniors from across the United States. Besides paying the \$2,000 participation fee, students had to demonstrate academic achievement and an interest in a career related to science and health. Clayton was amongst the group.

Participants in the forum lived on the campus of Emory University in Atlanta. There was never any typical day, said Clayton.

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, we went outside of the Emory campus. At the trip to the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta, we were able to go into a lab with human cadavers. I was able to pick up a human brain, lift up a ribcage, and see different organs," he said.

There were other students there that had an interest in medicine but sometimes he would be the lone veterinarian

in a group. "I especially enjoyed the problem-based learning approach," Clayton said. "This form of teaching bought the

quite a bit.' According to Donna Snyder, forum executive director, The National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine.

whole group together. We were able to research and learn

See ANIMALS, Page 3C

# Biologists check up on Stewart's indigos

Pfc. Ben Brody

Associate Editor

Deep in the impenetrable forests of Fort Stewart, with sweat pouring off his brow, a doctor prepares his patient for emergency surgery. It's not a training accident, and few people on post have any idea why a team of scientists would be hunched over this patient, administering anesthesia.

The patient is an eastern indigo snake, a threatened species which makes its home in the gopher tortoise burrows common to the sand hill areas of Stewart.

The surgeon is Dr. Terry Norton, a wildlife veterinarian from the Wildlife Conservation Society of St. Catherine's Island, who conducts health assessments of Stewart's indigos. He conducted minor surgery July 20 on Little Brother, a large male indigo whose internal radio transmitter antenna had started to poke through his scales.

North America's largest snake is slithering about Stewart carrying transmitters because University of Georgia doctoral student Natalie Hyslop is conducting a study of their behavior and habitat use which will aid in conservation management for the dwindling species.

"The big threats facing indigos are habitat loss and fatal encounters with people or vehicles," Hyslop said. "Fort Stewart has large areas where that's not really a factor, so they've been pretty successful here and we're able to observe their behavior and movements in a more natural state."

In mud-spattered pants, holding a large wire antenna and listening for beeps, Hyslop stalks areas frequented by the study animals to record information about their movements, usually without actually touching them. About every six months, however, she and Norton set out to conduct comprehensive health surveys of the snakes. The survey includes extensive blood testing, checking for parasites and mites, measuring and weighing them and ensuring the transmitter is not harming them.

"It's important to collect this baseline information about indigos so we know what 'normal' is, and can diagnose abnormalities more easily and set protocols for future studies," Norton said. "So far we've seen elevated mercury levels in Stewart's indigos, which is not surprising. Because they're top predators, they accumulate toxins quickly from down the food chain."

After each checkup, conducted behind a well-used Jeep, Hyslop brought each indigo back to the spot where she captured it, and watched the inky shape disappear into the underbrush.

The eastern indigo can reach lengths of over eight feet, and is a distinctive iridescent blue-black on the back and belly, and sometimes a reddish-orange patch on the sides of the head. Indigos are non-venomous and generally docile with people, though they frequently eat rattlesnakes and other poisonous snakes. They can live over 20 years in the wild.

Hyslop's study has suggested that indigos have even larger home ranges than previously thought, often over 800 acres, and that they return to their winter dens throughout the year. Indigo snakes spend much of the winter deep in tortoise burrow dens, which can be 10 feet deep and 25 feet long.

Because of their relatively predictable locations during the winter months, Hyslop captures the snakes then and assists Norton implanting the transmitters. It is a 10 to 14 day process at Norton's lab before the indigo is ready for re-release at the site of its capture.

The future looks dim for the indigo snake if human development continues at its current pace, according to Norton. Studies have suggested that in populated areas, most indigo deaths are caused by vehicles.

They are such magnificent creatures," Hyslop said as she watched White, a seven foot male, slide through charred timber in a recently burned area on Stewart. "It would be devastating to lose this important piece of the longleaf pine ecosystem."



Photos by Pfc. Ben Brody

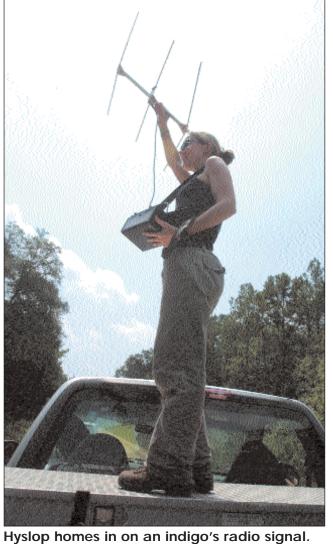
UGA doctoral student Natalie Hyslop measures an eastern indigo snake on Stewart July 20. She is conducting an intensive study on the threatened species.



DPW herpetologist Dirk Stevenson photographs Little Brother, a male indigo, as Hyslop, Tufts veterinary student Rhea Hanselmann and Norton prepare him for minor surgery.



A large male indigo flares its throat in a threat display, moments before striking at the author. Despite their status as a top predator, indigos are generally docile around people - which has fueled the snake's popularity in the illegal wildlife pet trade.





Dr. Terry Norton, a wildlife veterinarian from the Wildlife Conservation Society, draws blood from an eastern indigo.



White, a male indigo snake, slithers away through a recently burned area after his health assessment. Prescribed burns enhance the longleaf pine ecosystem, the indigo's habitat.

#### TFFNS

from page 1C

A lengthy discussion about school districts was begun by Matthew Charlton, a newcomer to Stewart.

He said he was frustrated with the fact that the post was districted to Bradwell Institute, a school that he believed was not up to par with Richmond Hill, "a very good school".

Jeff Ashmen was concerned with the lack of teen employment opportunities on post. Besides the Commissary, he said, there was not a great deal to choose from when it came to finding a job.

### **ANIMALS**

from page 1C

Before the forum ended, the students were able to take in the sights, sounds, and smells at The Mall of Georgia and Six Flags Over Georgia.

Clayton wants to be a veterinarian because he loves animals and wants to help them as much as he can

"I have had the pleasure of working in the office of Dr. David Beatie in Hinesville," said Clayton. "When I job shadowed him, I was able to see everything that was done in the clinic. Dr. Beattie enjoys taking care of strays and wild animals. Even when there were not any clients, I was able to do research or run tests."

Clayton is the son of Lt. Col. Wilfred D. Clayton, 3rd Infantry Division Inspector General, and mom Karen. His older brother, Duane, is enrolled in Georgia Southern University in their engineer program.

Clayton plans to pursue his veterinarian skills at the University of Georgia, where their program in veterinary medicine is one of the

Almost all of the participants felt the need for more teen activities, and were enthusiastic about the idea to build a paintball arena either on or near post. They even brainstormed a couple of ways it could be funded, like making it available to non-military members or opening a shop run by Stewart youth.

After all the issues were brainstormed, the group worked on deciding which two to bring before the AFAP forum to be held Sept. 23. They also talked about selecting a spokesperson to bring those issues to the forum.

premium in the country. He was able to look over the university's biomedical and health service program while in the forum which allowed him to see how well the cloning studies are progressing.

Clayton has an alternate for his career choice also. "I want to major in business, then attend veterinary school. With the business sense, I will be able to open up my own veterinary business," he said.

Looking to the future after college, Clayton says he would love to work with Panda Bears. There might even be the possibility of cloning them, to save them from extinction, he said. The thought also appeals to Clayton to explore working with completely wild animal species in a foreign country.

The NYLF is a non-profit, educational organization committed to empowering young people with the confidence to make well-informed career choices. Additional information is available at their website at www.nylf.org.



# he Film Fanatic



## A different kind of alien vs. predator

Reviewed by Pfc. Jacqueline Watson

Staff Writer

Before I say anything about *Open Water*, I want you to forget all the things you've already heard. Forget the biases you already have, whether they're for or against the movie.

It's a different sort of alien versus predator. In this case, the humans are the alien in the oceanic territory now filled with predators to fear.

Now, *Open Water* is a lot of things, but a horror flick it is not. If you are hoping to go catch the new "Jaws," you're going to be disappointed.

Prepare to be thrown into something that is so realistically intense, you won't really know what hit you.

This movie is, just as you've seen

from the previews, about a couple that

goes diving with a "professional" group

while on vacation, and then gets left behind in the middle of the ocean, forgotten.

The movie tries hard, and succeeds, in making its viewers feel what these two feel. The abandonment, the shock, the utter helplessness and vulnerability

to everything that is in this vast ocean world — for these 79 minutes, you are there.

Open Water is an independent film

directed by Chris Kentis, and, being a

low-budget movie, is almost like watching a home video. And that really works, because it's about two people on vacation — it just adds to that sense of reality.

Throughout the movie, while we watch the couple deal with the fact that no one is coming to rescue them, the time will pop up on the screen to let us know how long they've been out there.

A couple of hours pass, and you start to feel hungry with them. It turns into seven hours, and you begin to feel their panic. Eleven hours have gone by and it's getting dark — you feel the numbness as you watch their lips getting blue.

Then there are the predators. It starts with the jellyfish, and just gets worse from there. What would you do if you were out in the expanse of the Atlantic and you felt something big rubbing up against your foot?

There's nowhere to go. They have nothing but each other. They can do nothing but hope against the odds.

Sure, people grumbled when they walked out of the theater. I don't remember hearing one good comment from the people around me after the film was over. They went in with the wrong expectations.

I was left with a new appreciation for dry land, and even more, with the feeling that I had experienced, not just observed, a movie.

# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

# United in religion can accomplish much

Chaplain (Maj.) Pete Brzezinski

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As we face Labor Day weekend many of us are looking forward to some time off, a cook out and many other things as we celebrate the Labor Day weekend. In many places Labor Day marks the end of summer and the beginning of school and all the activities that go with it. It's a little hard to believe the summer is over when especially here in the south it is still hot until November. One thing is for sure we all could use some time off to spend with family and friends relaxing with all that we do here on "The Marne Express"! But have you considered lately

that work is actually a blessing? Those that specialize in human behavior and relationships tell us

that we all need to work, the right amount that is, to keep a balanced and less stressed lifestyle. We have all been there, in a job where we feel under the gun all the time or in a job where it is too slow for us, at the end of the day we felt the same, stressed and unhappy dreading going to work the next day!

We all know what it's like when we stay

positive and count our blessings and thank God that we have a job, our health, family, and friends. Work takes on another meaning when we choose to focus on what blessings we have and not on those things we are unhappy about. Just think how many people are out of work in Florida as a result of Hurricane Charley. They need our prayers and any help we can send to ease their burden since so many people are still with out power and other utilities we take for granted.

A wise man inspired by God, named Solomon, wrote about work in the Old Testament some three thou-

sand years ago. He wrote;
"There is nothing better for a
man, than that he should eat
and drink, and that he should
make his soul enjoy good in
his labor, for to enjoy one's
work this too is a gift from

**Catholic** 

Sunday Family Friendly

Tuesday Healing Service

God". I believe it's a good idea to stop once in a while and consider how we see work. Do we see work as a burden or as a blessing? The choice is really ours. May God Bless you as you enjoy a break from work this Labor Day weekend.

Editor's Note: Last week's Chaplain's Corner was written by Chaplain (Capt.) Stan Jasiurkowski, not Chaplain (1st Lt.) Matthew Temple.



# Pet of the Week

Darcey is a 2-year-old spayed female Pit Bull mix. She is extremely loving and well-behaved, and would make a wonderful pet for any family.

If you are interested in adopting a pet like Darcey for your home, call the Fort Stewart Veterinary Clinic at 767-2842. The clinic is located on W. Bultman Avenue.

# Worship Opportunities

### **Fort Stewart**

**Location** 

<u>Time</u>

11 a.m.

11:30 a.m.

| Sunday Mass               | Heritage | 9 a.m.     |
|---------------------------|----------|------------|
| Saturday Mass             | Heritage | 5 p.m.     |
| Weekday Mass              | Victory  | 11:45 a.m. |
| Protestant                |          |            |
| Sunday Protestant Worship | Marne    | 11 a.m.    |
| Sunday Gospel Service     | Victory  | 11 a.m.    |

Vale

WACH

Sunday School Diamond Elementary 9:30 a.m.

American Samoan
Sunday Worship Vale 1 p.m.

MuslimBuilding 61012:30 p.m.Friday Jum'ahBuilding 6109 a.m.

Lutheran
Sunday Worship Marne 9 a.m.

JewishFriday ServicesMarne6 p.m.

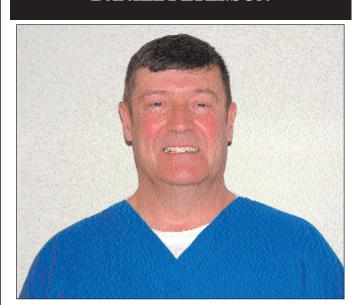
## Hunter Army Airfield

Protestant Protestant Sunday School Religious Education Center 9:30 a.m. Sunday Service Chapel 11 a.m.

CatholicSunday MassChapel9:30 a.m.

he Sunday Mass Chapel 9:30 a.m
CCD Religious Education Center 11 a.m.

### **DANIEL PETERSON**



aniel Peterson, a Grafton, N.D., native, is a Red Cross volunteer at Winn Army Community Hospital.

He volunteers in the Family Practice Clinic as a licensed nurse practitioner. Peterson said he volunteers to "keep his nursing skills sharp and up-todate. One of Peterson's favorite hobbies is watching

If you would like more information about becoming an American Red Cross volunteer at Winn, call Heather Conkle at 767-2197 or send an email to redcross2@stewart.army.mil

# **WOODRUFF THEATER**

August 26 - September 1

Friday, Saturday and Sunday General admission is \$3 for adults, \$1.50 for children.

\$1 Showings Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Anchorman (PG-13) Starring: Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate

Tonight at 7 p.m.

When feminism marches into the newsroom in the form of ambitious newswoman Veronica Corningstone, Ron, the toprated anchorwoman in San Diego is willing to play along at first, but then turns into a battle between the two perfectly coiffed anchor-persons.

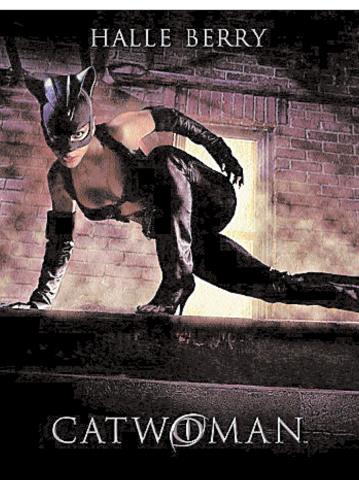
Catwoman (PG-13) Starring: Halle Berry, Sharon Stone Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 7 p.m.

Patience Phillips seems destined to spend her life apologizing for taking up space. This comes to a screeching halt when Patience becomes a human guinea pig for the revolutionary anti-aging product Hadare. Patience then becomes a different person come nighttime, more accurately, a Catwoman elusive, untamed, powerful, stealthy and not necessarily prone to erring on the side of good.

A Cinderella Story (PG) Starring: Hillary Duff, Jennifer Collidge

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Samantha lives at the beck and cal of her self-obsessed stepmother Fiona and her sinfully-wicked step sisters. She finds her social life wonderfully complicated when she meets her Prince Charming on the internet, who turns out to be Austin, her high school's quarterback. Sam dodges Austin's efforts to find his princess. Will Sam let fear hold her back or find the courage to claim what she's always wanted? Her chance at "happily ever after" depends on it.



#### **Birth Announcements**

Jadon Tellis Burgess-Thomas, a boy, 8 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Michael Thomas and Telphanie Burgess-Thomas.

Cristian Xavier Dennis, a boy, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Calvin Dennis and Staff Sgt. Christal Dennis.

Antonio Aprentice Bradley, a boy, 6 pounds, 10 ounces, born to Spc. Antonio Bradley and Spc. LaNorma Murdock.

August 11

Jeremy Caleb McNamara, a boy, 9 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Sgt. Richard McNamara and Rebekah Rosa McNamara.

August 12

Margaret Grace Frohnhoefer, a girl, 8 pounds,

born to Capt. Thomas Duffy Frohnhoefer and Audrey Lynn Frohnhoefer.

Mica Anthony Luttrull, a boy, 10 pounds, 2 ounces, born to Pfc. Chad Luttrull and Katherine

Klaryssa Mercedes Oxford, a girl, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Spc. Keith Oxford and Judi Oxford.

Angel Elijah Vidal, a boy, pounds, 8 ounces, born to Spc. Carlos Vidal and Pfc. Amy Vidal.

Christopher Raynard Reed Jr., a boy, 6 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Spc. Christopher Reed and Glenda Reed.

Aidon Michealangelo Diaz, a boy, 6 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Spc. George Diaz and Alisa Diaz.

**August 13** 

Tamia Mariah Blakley, a girl, 6 pounds, 9

ounces, born to Cedric Blakley and Pfc. Latricia Maston.

Scarlett Dawn Sullivan, a girl, 7 pounds, 11 ounces, born to Sgt. Sean Christopher Sullivan and Heidi Dawn Sullivan.

August 14

Jessica Charlotte Coval, a girl, 7 pounds, 15 ounces, born to Sgt. John C. Coval and Barbara A. Coval.

Wyatt James Coon, a boy, 9 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Spc. Alan Coon and Jessica

Arianna Rena Vann, a girl, 6 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Sgt. Aaron Kenard Vann and Sgt. Lawandca Monique Sutton.

Amelia Leigh DiFebo, a girl, 7 pounds, 9 ounces, born to Spc. Dominic A. DiFebo and

Amber L. DiFebo.

Julie Samuel Sanchez, a boy, 6 pounds, 1 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Julio Sanchez and Lillian

Sanchez. Kevin Jerone Hunter Jr., a boy, 4 pounds, 14 ounces, born to Pfc. Kevin Jerone Hunter and Tara Marie Hunter.

**August 16** 

Dustin Duane Stevenson, II, a boy, 6 pounds, 1 ounce, born to Staff Sgt. Dustin D. Stevenson and Staff Sgt. Regina D. Stevenson.

August 17

Damien Terrance Williams, a boy, 8 pounds, 6 ounces, born to Pfc. Tishawn Williams and Tara Marie Williams.

Kamryn Dayshan Foster, a girl, 6 pounds, 3 ounces, born to Staff Sgt. Keric Darnell Foster and Spc. April Dayshan Foster.

